

WHO EML Secretariat

E: [emlsecretariat@who.int](mailto:emlsecretariat@who.int)

**Date** 10 April 2025  
**Your ref.** 2025-001 RP/JD  
**Subject** Comment in Support of Blinatumomab for Inclusion in the WHO Model List of Essential Medicines for Children

Princess Máxima Center for  
pediatric oncology

**Visiting address**  
Heidelberglaan 25  
3584 CS Utrecht

**Postal address**  
P.O. Box 113  
3720 AC Bilthoven

T 088 972 72 72  
F 088 972 50 09

CoC Utrecht 54 32 79 46  
[prinsesmaximacentrum.nl](http://prinsesmaximacentrum.nl)

Dear WHO Expert Committee members,

I write this letter on behalf of the Princess Máxima Center for Pediatric Oncology, the largest childhood cancer center for care and research in Europe, in support of inclusion of blinatumomab in the WHO Essential Medicines List.

I am one of the founders of this institute and am as Chief Máxima International responsible for the international program of our institute. Besides this I am president elect of SIOP, the International Society of Pediatric Oncology. I have seen firsthand the impact of B-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia in children — particularly in settings where access to innovative therapies is limited. Blinatumomab offers a highly effective, targeted option for these patients and has transformed outcomes in high-income countries.

Inclusion of blinatumomab in the WHO Model List of Essential Medicines for Children is a critical step toward expanding equitable access to this life-saving therapy in low- and middle-income countries. It would also support integration into national treatment protocols and facilitate procurement mechanisms aligned with WHO's Global Initiative for Childhood Cancer and addition to the Global Platform for Access to Childhood Cancer Medicines.

On behalf of my center and SIOP, I strongly support this application and urge the Committee to approve blinatumomab for inclusion.

Sincerely,



Prof. dr. Rob Pieters,  
Chief Máxima International | Executive Board  
President-elect International Society of Paediatric Oncology (SIOP)